CLAIMS

1.   An information-recording apparatus characterized by comprising:

receiving means for receiving information related to a plurality of contents broadcast;

temporary storage means for temporarily storing the information items related to the contents;

storage means for storing any related information items;

instructing means for instructing that the related information items temporarily stored in the temporary storage means be recorded in the storage means;

recording means for recording the related information items stored in the temporary storage means, as a set, and the name of the set in association with the set, in the storage means, in response to an instruction made by the instructing means.

2.   The information-recording apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the recording means records the information related to the contents broadcast in a program, as a set, in the storage means when the instructing means instructs that the information related to the contents broadcast in that program be recorded in the storage means, and records the name of the program as the name of the set.

3.   The information-recording apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the recording means records the information

related to the contents broadcast during a given time period, as a set, in the storage means when the instructing means instructs that the information related to the contents broadcast in that time period be recorded in the storage means, and records the name of the broadcast station and time period as the name of the set.

4.   The information-recording apparatus according to claim 1, comprising reproducing means for reproducing the contents from a recording medium loaded, characterized in that the recording means records the information related to the contents recorded in the recording medium, as a set, in the storage means when the instructing means instructs that the information related to the contents recorded in the recording medium be recorded in the storage means.

5.   The information-recording apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the instructing means instructs that at least one of the related information items be recorded in the storage means, and the recording means records the related information item in the storage means, as one element of a set already prepared in the storage means, when the instructing means instructs that the related information item be recorded in the storage means.

6.   The information-recording apparatus according to claim 1, comprising reproducing means for reproducing the contents from a recording medium loaded, and transmitting means for transmitting request information requesting for the information related to the contents reproduced by the reproducing means, characterized in that the receiving means receives a plurality of related information items

corresponding to the request information, the recording means records the related information items received by the receiving means, as the set, and the name of the set in association with the set, in the storage means.

7.   An information-recording method characterized by comprising the steps of:

receiving information related to a plurality of contents broadcast;

temporarily storing information items related to the contents, in temporary storage means;

instructing that the related information items temporarily stored in the temporary storage means be recorded in storage means for storing any related information items; and

recording the related information items stored in the temporary storage means, as a set, and the name of the set in association with the set, in the storage means, in response to the instruction.

8.   The information-recording method according to claim 7, characterized in that the step of receiving related information is performed as a terminal apparatus which can communicate with an authentication server having an authentication function and with a related-information providing server for providing the related information and which can receive the information related to the contents carries out the following steps:

transmitting request information requesting for the information related to the contents, to the related-information providing server,

together with a service-session ID that is a session ID between the terminal apparatus and the related-information providing server;

receiving, from the related-information providing server, information representing an authentication error and service identification information identifying the related-information providing server;

transmitting authentication-ticket request information to the authentication server, together with the authentication-session ID that is a session ID between the terminal apparatus and the authentication server, the authentication-ticket request information requesting that an authentication ticket be issued for an access to the related-information providing server;

receiving the authentication ticket issued by the authentication server when the authentication server authenticates the terminal apparatus, and transmitting the authentication-ticket request information, together with the authentication ticket to the related-information providing server;

receiving the service-session ID that is a session ID between the terminal apparatus and the related-information providing server, when the related-information providing server authenticates the terminal apparatus;

transmitting request information for requesting the related information to the related-information providing server, together with the service-session ID; and

receiving the related information corresponding to the request

information, when the related-information providing server authenticates the terminal apparatus.

9. The information-recording method according to claim 8, characterized in that the step of receiving related information is performed as the terminal apparatus receives information representing an authentication error and transmits a user ID and a password to the authentication server when the authentication performed by the authentication server is an error, receives the authentication-session ID that is a session ID between the terminal apparatus and the related-information server, when the authentication server authenticates the user ID and the password, and transmits the authentication-ticket request information to the authentication server, together with the authentication-session ID.

10. The information-recording method according to claim 7, comprising a step of transmitting, at predetermined intervals, request information requesting for the information related to the contents being broadcast and received, and a step of displaying the information related to the contents, characterized in that related information that accords with the request information is received in the step of receiving related information, and the related information received is displayed in the step of displaying the information.

11. An information-recording program characterized in that it causes a computer to perform the functions of:

receiving means for receiving information related to a plurality of contents broadcast;

temporary storage means for temporarily storing information items related to the contents;

storage means for storing any related information items;

instructing means for instructing that the related information items temporarily stored in the temporary storage means be recorded in the storage means;

recording means for recording the related information items stored in the temporary storage means, as a set, and the name of the set in association with the set, in the storage means, in response to an instruction made by the instructing means.